

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications for this paper should be accompanied by the name of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith on the part of the writer. Write only on one side of the paper. Be particularly careful in giving names and dates, to have the letters and figures plain and distinct.

THE LITTLE FOLKS.

Kite Time.

Three of the jolliest fellows,
Are Johnny and Harry and Ned;
They're always in mischief of some kind,
From rising till going to bed.

One day when the wind was tremendous,
They thought they would make such a kite
As no one had ever seen flying—
"A giant," they cried in delight.

So they took all the big poles that Katy
Had placed under jacket and shirt,
And you might imagine her horror,
To find the clothes down in the dirt.

The rest of their freaks and adventures
Were such as all youngsters know,
Till the hour when the kite, in a fury,
Determined to go it alone.

And called away off in its triumph
With the barn for a bit of a tail,
And Johnny and Harry and Ned,
Poor voyagers, frightened and pale.

A Trick with an Apple.

Not long since I was whiling away a pleasant evening with a number of young friends, and, as is so often the case, our conversation was gradually led into the subject of legendaries, or sleight-of-hand, and many very queer and puzzling experiments in that direction were displayed. It was a subject on which no one of our number seemed wanting for an example, as each in turn offered some amusing feat of the magician's art, occasionally sandwiched by some witty conundrum or pun, by way of variety. Our young people will easily understand why it was that no other subject crept in upon us during that whole evening, and how, when the late hours came, we were all loth to break up and depart to our several homes. There is scarcely any other way in which young people seem to enjoy themselves more than in this, and it is always pleasant to have in one's mind a store of reminiscences of such experiences. Many are the long winter evenings that are rendered warm and tiresome, only for the want, perhaps, of some such amusement.

On the evening referred to, one thing and another led to the subject of magic, etc., and one individual rather gifted in that direction commenced by placing a penny in the hollow of his hand, and, although I was "positively certain" that I constantly felt it there, he seemingly withdrew it without my knowledge, and I afterward found it in my vest-pocket, whereupon I was branded as a "felon and a thief," and my confusion created much merriment. This was followed by another and another equally strange, until a great part of the evening had slipped by, when there came a sudden lull in our enthusiasm, as the domestic entered the door bearing a silver dish containing a variety of delicious fruits and nuts. We had scarcely commenced at them before the subject was again revived.

"Do you see that apple?" said a friend sitting near me, as he took from the silver dish a brightly colored "Baldwin." "Do you see that apple?"

We all replied in the affirmative, gazing at it attentively, expecting to see it turn into a mouse or some other ridiculous thing right before our eyes.

"Well," he continued, "I can cut that apple in halves, and I defy you to find a break in its skin after I have done it."

We were all on the watch, thinking that there might be some so-called "sell" in his manner of expressing himself; but, no. He assured us that he was literally in earnest, and we all gazed with close attention to see how the feat was to be done. Taking the apple between the tips of his fingers and thumb, he thus held it for a minute or so. He then placed it in the hollow of one hand, covering it with the other, and another minute elapsed.

"Why don't you cut it?" we all asked.

"It is cut," he replied; "and a smart lot of fellows you have been not to have seen me do it."

He now passed the apple around, and we all devoured it with our eyes as we searched for the knife-cut in the skin; but we were none of us successful. Having satisfied ourselves that the outside was unbroken, the apple was passed back to the original individual, who, after inspecting the stem of it a moment, broke it open, disclosing to our eyes two smoothly cut sections of equal size. The pulp bore the appearance of having been divided by a sharp knife, and it was evidently no accidental break. A slight discoloration was also visible, showing that the division had existed some little time. An examination of the halves gave us a clue as to the manner in which it had been done.

Another apple was taken from the dish, and we all witnessed a repetition of the operation, which was conducted as follows: It had been done with a fine needle and a piece of silk thread. Taking the apple, with the stem uppermost, the needle was inserted deep in the hollow, passed through the pulp, and brought out again at about half an inch from the place where it entered. A few inches of the silk having been drawn through, the needle was again inserted in the same aperture from which it had just emerged, passed along directly under the skin as before, and the same process continued until the needle was brought out directly in the calyx. The other side of the apple was now followed up in a similar manner, and the needle at last brought out at the stem end on the opposite side from where it first entered. The principal part of the trick was now finished, but what followed required just as much care. Our friend now took the apple between his knees, keeping it in such a position that the threads, following their own direction, would fall to his right and left. Next the thread, emerging from the left side of the apple, was taken in his right hand, and the other in his left hand, letting them cross deep in the hollow of the stem. A little gentle sawing with one hand and the other soon brought the thread through the pulp, core and all, and out it came, leaving scarcely a mark behind.

It was a very pretty trick, and had been well carried out. The apple, having been previously prepared, was brought in with the rest of the fruit. This, and the wonderful ease with which our friend seemed to perform the

feat while covering the apple with both hands, were all calculated to mystify us, as it certainly did. To avoid suspicion, the trick should always be performed in this way. The apple may also be cut at right angles to the core, but the breaks in the skin are more observable in this method than in the other, as the stem-hollow and calyx hide the marks very effectually.

George's Reason.

The pupils of Mr. Jones' school had all, save one, entered the school and taken their seats, when George Hardy, the tardy scholar for once, came hurrying in, much out of breath.

"Why, George, said his teacher, 'how is this? I saw you, as I supposed, on your way to school when I started from home. I hope you have not been away at play when you should have been at school.'"

"No, sir; I have not played any this morning; I thought I could run home and be back before school commenced."

"But why did you wish to return home? Did you forget anything?"

"No, sir."

"What did you go back for, then?"

"If you will please excuse me, sir, I had rather not tell."

"I hardly think I can excuse you, George; you are very late, and you know I have a right to demand sufficient reason for it."

George stepped up, and, placing his lips close to his teacher's ear, whispered, "I met a boy who was without shoes, and as I had a pair which I had outgrown, I went home to get them for him."

"Was that the reason?" asked the teacher, looking upon the blushing boy with love and approbation.

"Yes, sir."

"Why, then, did you not wish to tell me?"

"Because, sir, my mother says when I give anything in charity, I must do it privately, lest I should receive praise of men, and become vain and proud."

Time to Look Out.

"Here, friend, could you lend me one of your loose sticks? My nest wants repairing, and I've no time this morning," said a magpie to her neighbor.

"By all means," said the neighbor; and the magpie, promising to return it the next day, flew off with the stick.

"Could you lend me another stick?" she said the next morning; "the wind has damaged me in the night. I am not safe, and I have so much work to do in repairing that I've no time to look for timber."

The neighbor looked dubious, but after a little hesitation, lent another stick, which the magpie gratefully protested she would bring back with the other the next morning.

"I am really ashamed to come," she said the third morning; "but could you lend me another stick? Somehow I have got out of order at home, and what with one thing and another, I haven't time to look for timber."

"Take it," said the neighbor, in no satisfied tone, and directly after the magpie had flown off, declaring louder than ever that she would repay all she owed with interest the very next day.

The neighbor began to prepare for moving to a far-distant tree. "It's all very fine," she said; "a stick is but a stick, but if I don't cut this connection, I shall soon have to go about begging for sticks myself."

Manners.

Manners are more important than money. A boy who is polite and pleasant in his manners will always have friends, and will not make enemies. Good behavior is essential to prosperity. A boy feels well when he does well. If you wish to make everybody pleasant about you, and gain friends wherever you go, cultivate good manners. Many boys have pleasant manners in company and ugly manners at home.

We visited a small railroad town not long since, and were met at the depot by a little boy of about eleven or twelve years, who entertained and cared for us in the absence of his father, with as much polite attention and thoughtful care as the most cultivated gentleman could have done. We said to his mother before we left her home:

"You are greatly blessed in your son; he is so attentive and obliging."

"Yes," she said, "I can always depend on Charley when his father is absent. He is a great help and comfort to me."

She said this as if it did her heart good to acknowledge the cleverness of her son.

The best manners cost so little, and are worth so much, that every boy can have them.—*Children's Advocate.*

A Lesson of Gratitude.

A gentleman was once making inquiries in Russia about the method of catching bears in that country. He was told that, to entrap them, a pit was dug several feet deep, and after covering it over with turf, leaves, etc., some food was placed on the top. The bear, if tempted by the bait, easily fell into the snare. "But," he added, "if four or five happen to get in together, they all get out again." "How is that?" asked the gentleman. "They form a sort of ladder, by stepping on each other's shoulders, and thus make their escape." "But how does the bottom one get out?" "Ah! these bears, though not possessing a mind and soul such as God has given us, yet can feel gratitude; and they won't forget the one who has been the chief means of procuring their liberty. Scampering off, they fetch the branch of a tree, which they let down to their poor brother, enabling him speedily to join them in the freedom in which they rejoice." Sensible bears, we should say, and a great deal better than some people that we hear about, who never help anybody but themselves.—*The Carrier Dove.*

ALEXANDER MITCHELL, M. C., from Wisconsin, is reported to be worth \$20,000,000, and to be the wealthiest man in the West. He is a native of Scotland, and made most of his money by banking.

BARNUM is advertising in the London newspapers for estimates for the construction of his transatlantic balloon, which he intends to finish early in the summer.

GENERAL LAWS OF MICHIGAN.

Passed at the Extra Session of the Legislature in 1874.

AN ACT to amend section one hundred and twenty-four of the revised statutes of eighteen hundred and sixty-six, approved February thirteen, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, being section five thousand three hundred and twenty-two of the compiled laws of eighteen hundred and seventy-one.

SECTION 1. The people of the State of Michigan enact, That section one hundred and twenty-four of chapter one hundred and seventy-eight, being section five thousand three hundred and twenty-two of the compiled laws of eighteen hundred and seventy-one, be amended so as to read as follows:

(3372.) Sec. 124. All persons claiming an interest in any land, or in any right therein, shall make and file with the justice an affidavit that he has a good and substantial defense on the merits thereof, and that the justice before whom the same is pending is a material witness for such defense, without whose testimony he cannot safely proceed to trial, and shall state in said affidavit facts material to the issue which he claims to prove by such testimony. If he shall be unable to make such affidavit, he shall be deemed to have waived his right to a trial by jury, and the justice shall enter an order for the filing of such affidavit, and an order that the suit and all the papers relating thereto be transferred to some other justice in the same township or city, or to some other justice in any township in the same county adjoining said township or city, to be named in such order, who shall thereupon proceed to hear, try, and determine the cause in the same manner as if the suit had been originally commenced before him, and with the like effect. Or the justice may in such order, in his discretion, postpone the hearing of said cause until such time as the same may be heard by the justice to whom the cause is transferred, or in any adjoining township in the same county, as he shall see fit; at which time and place the justice to whom the cause is transferred shall attend and proceed to hear, try, and determine said cause as aforesaid.

Sec. 2. This act shall take immediate effect. Approved March 23, 1874.

[No. 2.]

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act to authorize and empower the Board of Control of State lands to aid in the construction of a railroad from the Straits of Mackinac to Marquette Harbor, on Lake Superior," and to add a new section thereto.

SECTION 1. The people of the State of Michigan enact, That an act entitled "An act to authorize and empower the Board of Control of State lands to aid in the construction of a railroad from the Straits of Mackinac to Marquette Harbor, on Lake Superior," approved March twenty-first, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, be amended by adding a new section, to be section five, as follows:

Sec. 5. The time limited in this act for constructing said railroad shall be and the same is hereby extended for the term of two years from and after the thirty-first day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, and all the powers conferred upon said Board of Control are hereby renewed, and extended until said railroad shall have been constructed, and all such powers shall be and remain in full force and have the same effect as though such powers had not been before this time extended; and the Board of Control shall have full power and authority to regulate, modify, or amend any resolution or regulation they may make, or may have made, necessary to secure the early completion of said railroad.

Sec. 2. This act shall take immediate effect. Approved March 24, 1874.

[No. 3.]

AN ACT to authorize proceedings by the State to condemn private property for public use.

SECTION 1. The people of the State of Michigan enact, That if any person or persons, when by law authorized to purchase for the State at private sale, or by condemnation, land as a site for any public building or buildings, State institution, or public use, to institute or cause to be instituted proceedings in the name and behalf of the State of Michigan against the land sought to be acquired, and against the owners and persons interested therein, in the circuit court of the county where the land is situated, for the purpose of the purchase of such land by the State, and the same shall be determined by judicial condemnation. And the said court in which such proceedings may be instituted, shall have and possess full jurisdiction of the subject matter of such proceedings, and power to hear, try, and determine all matters touching the proceedings, and the rights and interests of all concerned.

Sec. 2. That upon request of the Governor or other proper authority, the Attorney General of this State, or of the prosecuting attorney of the county where the land is situated, as the case may be, to cause a petition to be made and filed in the proper court, signed by the Attorney General or prosecuting attorney, addressed to the court, setting forth, with reasonable certainty, a description of the land sought to be acquired, the names of all persons claiming an interest therein, so far as disclosed by the records of titles of the county in which the land is situated, or can be ascertained from actual occupants; that the petition is made and presented for the purpose of acquiring the title and ownership of the land described in the petition, to and for the use of the State of Michigan, and specifying generally the purpose for which it is to be used. And the petition shall ask that all persons claiming an interest in the premises, or any part thereof, be summoned to appear and answer the petition, and show cause, if any they have, against the same. Upon filing the petition, summons shall be served on the persons named therein, returnable on a day to be named, which shall not be less than five days from the filing and test thereof, and shall be served at least three days before the return day, by the sheriff or other officer authorized to serve process of summons, according to the rules and practice of the circuit court in other cases at law. If there are minors or persons of unsound mind interested in the premises, service may be made upon the guardian of any such person, or the court may appoint a guardian ad litem for any such person, who may appear and defend for the person or persons so represented. If there are non-resident or absent persons upon whom service cannot be obtained within the county, the court may order service upon any such person wherever he may be found, and in such manner as the court may deem proper, serving any such process on such non-resident or absent person shall make proof of service by affidavit, stating the place, time and manner of service. Or the court may order and cause notice to be given to such non-resident persons by publication in such newspaper printed and published in the county as the court shall designate, and for such length of time as the court may think proper, not less than three weeks, once in each week; and any such service by publication, or notice by publication, shall be as effectual for all the purposes of such proceeding and in the condemnation of the land as service by summons, and shall be personally served within the county.

Sec. 3. That when all the parties named in the petition have been summoned or notified, in the manner provided, and the time for their appearance shall have expired, the court shall hear any and all persons who shall appear and interpose objections to the petition or proceedings, and proceed to decide the questions raised, and may vacate the petition, or any part of the proceedings for cause, and may allow amendment of the petition, in form or substance, as the right of the matter shall demand. If any person having an interest in the land has been overlooked, or not summoned or notified, the court may continue the proceedings and cause such persons to be served or notified. If the petition and proceedings are sustained, the court shall appoint three commissioners, residents and freeholders within the county, not interested or of kin to any of the persons interested in the land, to ascertain and determine

the necessity for taking such property, and the compensation for damages, or both, which ought to be paid by the State to each of the owners and persons interested in the premises, and for his, her or their just compensation for the land sought to be taken. Such commissioners shall be sworn to faithfully and justly discharge their duties in the premises according to their best ability. They shall visit the land sought to be acquired, shall ascertain the separate interest of each person owning or interested in any part of the premises, and the description of his or her separate interest in the parcel; shall hear, in the presence and under the direction of the court, evidence touching the matters they are to find, brought forward by any person having an interest, and shall find all necessary facts to possess the court with the truth and right of the matter, but shall not be required to find what evidence was offered or given, and shall report to the court, in writing, their findings. Instead of commissioners, the court, with or without the request of any person interested in any portion of the premises described in the petition, may and upon the request of any such person shall order a jury to issue to the sheriff, to summon twelve jurors who shall be residents and freeholders of the county where the land is situated, to attend at a time to be named before the court, to serve as a jury. Any person interested in any part of the premises may object for cause to any of the jurors, but there shall be no peremptory challenge allowed. If cause any juror fails to appear, is excused, or set aside from the panel, the court may order the sheriff, or other proper officer in attendance, to call, with or without the request of any person interested in the premises, a sufficient number of persons to form the jury. The jury shall be sworn, as is required of commissioners, and they shall view the premises, hear evidence if offered, determine the necessity for taking such property, and the same proceedings he has and may be as heretofore required in reference to commissioners.

Sec. 4. The court shall hear objections, if any, to the report of the commissioners or jury, or to the case made by and may set aside their report or finding, or confirm the same, and if confirmed, shall enter a judgment of condemnation, and that all right, title, and interest of, in, and to the land and premises, vest in the State of Michigan: Provided, That the State, within such time as shall be therein prescribed, shall deposit in the court the amount found by the report of the commissioners or jury, as the just compensation and damages to be paid to the owners and persons interested. If, within the time so prescribed, the State shall cause to be deposited the sum so found, the court shall thereupon enter an order and judgment that the title of the State in and to said land and premises, vest in the State of Michigan, and that the State shall have and possess full power and authority to regulate, modify, or amend any resolution or regulation they may make, or may have made, necessary to secure the early completion of said railroad.

Sec. 5. The time limited in this act for constructing said railroad shall be and the same is hereby extended for the term of two years from and after the thirty-first day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, and all the powers conferred upon said Board of Control are hereby renewed, and extended until said railroad shall have been constructed, and all such powers shall be and remain in full force and have the same effect as though such powers had not been before this time extended; and the Board of Control shall have full power and authority to regulate, modify, or amend any resolution or regulation they may make, or may have made, necessary to secure the early completion of said railroad.

Sec. 2. This act shall take immediate effect. Approved March 24, 1874.

[No. 4.]

AN ACT concerning submarine sites for light-houses, and other aids to navigation.

SECTION 1. The people of the State of Michigan enact, That whenever the United States of America desire to acquire title to land belonging to the State, and covered by the navigable waters of the United States, and situated within the limits thereof, for the site of a light-house beacon, or other aid to navigation, and application is made by a duly authorized agent of the United States, describing the land required for one of the purposes aforesaid, then the Governor of the State is authorized and empowered to convey the title to the United States, and to cede to the United States jurisdiction over the same: Provided, That no single tract shall contain more than ten (10) acres, and that the State shall retain concurrent jurisdiction so far that all process, civil or criminal, issuing under the authority of the State, may be executed by the proper officers thereof, upon any person or persons amenable to the same, within the limits of land so ceded, in like manner and to like effect as if this act had never been passed.

Sec. 2. This act shall take immediate effect. Approved March 24, 1874.

[No. 5.]

AN ACT to cede jurisdiction to the United States of America, and for the purchase and condemnation thereof.

SECTION 1. The people of the State of Michigan enact, That the United States of America shall have and possess full power and authority to acquire title to land belonging to the State, and covered by the navigable waters of the United States, and situated within the limits thereof, for the site of a light-house beacon, or other aid to navigation, and application is made by a duly authorized agent of the United States, describing the land required for one of the purposes aforesaid, then the Governor of the State is authorized and empowered to convey the title to the United States, and to cede to the United States jurisdiction over the same: Provided, That no single tract shall contain more than ten (10) acres, and that the State shall retain concurrent jurisdiction so far that all process, civil or criminal, issuing under the authority of the State, may be executed by the proper officers thereof, upon any person or persons amenable to the same, within the limits of land so ceded, in like manner and to like effect as if this act had never been passed.

Sec. 2. This act shall take immediate effect. Approved March 24, 1874.

[No. 6.]

AN ACT relative to taxation.

SECTION 1. The people of the State of Michigan enact, That whenever it shall come to the knowledge of the supervisor or proper assessing officer of any town, city, or ward, that any land liable to taxation in said town, city or ward, at the time of taking the assessment of the preceding year was omitted from the assessment roll of said year, it shall be the duty of the supervisor to enter said land upon the assessment roll of the current year at a proper valuation of such property for assessment for the year in which said land was omitted from the assessment roll.

Sec. 2. The Board of Supervisors of the county in which said town, city or ward is situated, at the next annual meeting after such assessment, proceed to levy taxes upon the same at a rate per cent. not exceeding the rate per cent. of taxes imposed upon the land in said town, city or ward for the year in which such land was omitted from the assessment roll.

Sec. 3. The whole amount of the taxes levied upon land omitted in the tax levy of the preceding year shall be deducted from the aggregate amount of taxation to be levied upon said town, city, or ward for the current year, before such tax for the current year is levied, and shall be collected or otherwise disposed of by the same authority and in the same manner as are ordinary taxes for the current year.

Sec. 4. The assessment provided for in the first section of this act shall be made within the time, and in the same manner, and subject to the same provisions of law as to assessment and review and otherwise, as is the assessment for the current year; and the lands placed upon the assessment roll under the provisions of such section, shall be placed upon a part of said assessment roll separate and distinct from the lands assessed for the current year, and immediately preceded by a statement which shall distinctly set forth the year in which such land was omitted from the assessment roll, and for which it is then placed thereon.

Sec. 5. This act shall authorize placing upon the assessment roll for the year eighteen hundred and seventy-four, lands legally subject to taxation when omitted from the assessment roll for the years eighteen hundred and seventy-two and eighteen hundred and seventy-three, and hereafter shall be limited to the assessment of lands omitted from the assessment roll of either or both of the two years next preceding that in which they are placed upon the roll and at the time of such omission legally liable to assessment and taxation.

Sec. 6. Lands heretofore or hereafter placed upon the assessment roll for any year, but not within the time required by law the taxes upon which remain unpaid until the expiration of the time herein provided for the assessment of such land, shall, for purposes of this act, be construed as omitted therefrom, and may be placed upon the assessment roll of the current year in the same manner as indicated above, except that in case the value of the property is not shown on the former assessment roll, the Board of Supervisors of the county shall, upon the valuation of the property of the town, city, or ward, as was equalized by the Board of Supervisors, and upon which the tax was theretofore apportioned, then the amount of taxes against such land shall not be deducted from the aggregate amount of taxation to be levied upon the town, city, or ward, within which they are situated, as provided in section three of this act.

Sec. 7. Whenever the Auditor General shall have rejected any tax in the first instance, or have charged the same to the county to which it shall have been credited on account of any inaccurate or imperfect description of land upon which such tax was laid, or for any other reason, the Board of Supervisors of the county shall, if such tax was rejected or charged back on account of inaccuracy or imperfection of description of the land on which it was laid, add to the then current assessment roll of the proper town, city, or ward, a correct description of such land, and cause to be assessed therein the tax, interest, and charges in arrears, and the same to be collected with the taxes of the then current year, and in the same manner as other taxes.

Sec. 8. The taxes, together with all interest and charges in arrears, upon any land rejected or charged back by the Auditor General for the reason that such land was not subject to taxation at the time prescribed by law for the assessment for such taxes, or that the taxes thereon had been once paid, or that there had been a double assessment thereof, shall, by the Board of Supervisors, be levied upon the property at large of the proper township, or otherwise disposed of as may appear equitable, except that they shall not be re-assessed upon the same land.

Sec. 9. The taxes, interest and charges in arrears upon any land rejected or charged back for any reason, except as specified in the two preceding sections, may be re-assessed upon the same lands, levied upon the taxable property of the proper township, or otherwise disposed of by the Board of Supervisors, as may appear equitable.

Sec. 10. The assessments made and taxes levied under the provisions of this act, shall, in all matters except as hereinbefore specified, be subject to the provisions of an act entitled "An act to provide for a uniform assessment of property, and for the collection and return thereof," approved April sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, and to the amendments thereto.

Sec. 11. This act shall take immediate effect. Approved March 24, 1874.

[No. 7.]

AN ACT to amend section three thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven of the compiled laws of eighteen hundred and seventy-one, relative to the sale of swamp and primary school lands in the mineral range of the Upper Peninsula, heretofore withheld from market as mineral lands.

SECTION 1. The people of the State of Michigan enact, That section three thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven of the compiled laws of eighteen hundred and seventy-one, relative to the sale of swamp and primary school lands in the mineral range of the Upper Peninsula, heretofore withheld from market as mineral lands, be and the same is amended so as to read as follows:

(3987.) Sec. 4. The pay of such agents shall be five dollars per day, for the time actually and necessarily spent in the discharge of their duties, together with their actual and reasonable traveling expenses; and their accounts for such services and expenses, properly verified by such agents, when allowed by the Board of Supervisors, shall be paid by the State Treasurer, upon the warrant of the Auditor General, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 2. This act shall take immediate effect. Approved March 25, 1874.

NOTE.—The above are all the general laws passed at the extra session of 1874.

Some of the New Spring Fashions.

With the gray and brown costumes, the gloves or hat, or its trimmings, must be carefully matched in shade. Indeed, for Easter, many ladies are having hats made of the material of the costume, the design consisting only of a large, full crown, surrounded with a band of torsade and ornamented with a heron's plume and a dagger or buckle or large clasp of cut steel.

The "Chatterfield" handkerchief of white twilled silk is worn around the throat.

Gloves are perfectly plain, with small gilt buttons for fastening, set on. Neckties are disappearing, but bracelets are worn upon the upper as well as the lower part of the arm in evening dresses.

Small mask vails are revived, bordered with fine jet fringe. Skirts "cling" more than ever.

A new bustle, highly approved, is made of cork.

All dresses are demi-train, and fitted with buttons and loops for the street.

The redingote dies, but the polonaise survives—sensible, because the latter is better adapted to summer, and it will be easy to resurrect the redingote when it is wanted.

JULES VERNE'S ingenious narrative, "Five Weeks in a Balloon," utopian and improbable as it is, has been equalled by an actual occurrence. Some weeks ago intelligence was received that the wreck of a balloon had been found near Natal, South Africa. A package of letters found near the wreck established the fact that it was one of the many air ships dispatched from Paris during its siege in 1871. A well-known Paris savan, who has given the subject of ballooning a great deal of attention, in a letter to the London Times, demonstrates that the wreck is none other than that of the Richard Wallace, which left Paris under the charge of M. Lacaze three days before the capitulation. When last seen M. Lacaze was passing southward. The theory is that he found an air-current blowing from the north that carried him, probably in the night time, out over the Mediterranean Sea. Having ballast to the amount of 1,602 pounds, he could, by throwing it out, maintain a high altitude. Subsequently finding himself over the Sahara, the aeronaut may have concluded to keep on until he reached the sea-coast or some other European settlement. The Richard Wallace was of the same size and capacity as the Ville d'Orleans, which carried MM. Rollier and Deschamps, 600 miles north of Christiania in Norway.

THERE is in Switzerland, on an average, one journal for 6,479 inhabitants.

THE OLD DRESS-COAT.

A PARODY ON GEM, ALBERT PIERCE'S "OLD CANOE."

Where cobwebs are thick and ceiling low,
And the dusty door looks dark below,
And the floor is covered with old shoes,
Where trunks and boxes in lonely pride
Are gloomily ranged round the rough wall side;
Where pictures hang like old and dim,
Where old hats lay devoid of brim,
Where the past all in dust is wrote,
Hangs on the nail the old dress-coat.

The well-worn tails are idly dropped,
Like a sea-bird's wing that the storm has stopped,
And down from the shoulders, one by one,
Hang the threadbare arms whose work was done;
While busily back and forth between
The spiders stretch the silver screen,
And their struggling victims wearily tote
Across the breast of the old dress-coat.

The glossy cloth that a luster gave
Rote slowly away to its hidden grave;
The green mildew creeps o'er its decay,
Hiding the moldering past away.
Like the hand that plants o'er the tomb a flower,
Or the foot that mingles the old and dim,
While fading colors, once remote,
Throw their somber hues o'er the old dress-coat.

The heaving breasts are dead and still,
But the light wings with the flap at will,
And lazily swing its shabby tail.
It floats its length from a rusty nail,
Like a pendulum moving the hands of time
That meet and part at the non-time chime,
And the arms together kindly float,
As if to greet o'er the old dress-coat.

Oh, many a time in the olden day
I've brushed its folds and dust away,
And decked myself for the evening ball,
Where the dance was wild, and love ruled all;
And I laughed and I whirled in the giddy dance,
At the girl's shy look and admiring glance,
And my youth's music's sweetest note,
As if I sauntered along in my fine dress-coat.

But now, as I turn from its moldering pride,
And look in the broken glass at its side,
The face that I see is graver grown,
And the laugh that I hear has a sadder tone,
And the form that gave it such graceful swings
Hath bowed beneath the weight of sterner things,
But I love to think of the happy hours
I danced in my coat 'mid music and flowers,
While the steps of time in its rude march smote,
And crushed the pride of my old dress-coat.
—Great Western Monthly.

Pith and Point.

A DOCTOR'S motto—"Patients and long suffering."